Dear Dragon Boaters:

The 16th Annual Welland Dragon Boat Festival will be held on Saturday June 3, 2017, with an optional practice session on Friday, June 2. Dragon boat racing is the fastest growing water sport in the world. Almost every major city in Canada can now boast that it has a Dragon Boat Festival as part of its summer event schedule.

We would like to invite your corporation, group of friends or community group to enter a team into this exciting event. Many companies have found that the social atmosphere and the team building aspect of dragon boat racing is a valuable tool to assist employees and employers to interact in a friendly and constructive manner outside of the workplace. There is something for everyone so it is a great family day. This year there will be musical entertainment after the races, so bring your lawn chairs, spend some time along our beautiful canal and enjoy the festivities!

Please find attached a team registration form, which includes a brief introduction to dragon boating and instructions on how to register a team, including a complete set of event rules & regulations and waivers. A crew consists of a minimum of 16 paddlers (although 20 is recommended) and there must be a minimum of 8 female paddlers. Teams using this event as a "qualifier" will have an extra 500m race. A team may provide its own certified steersperson; if a team does not have a steersperson, one will be provided. Each team will have thee timed heats on Saturday, June 3 (weather permitting). **Practice sessions will be held on Friday, June 2 beginning at 4pm.** Technique and synchronicity are the key elements to a successful dragon boat team.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call us at 905-732-5337.

We look forward to your participation!

Sincerely,

The Welland Dragon Boat Festival
c/o Welland Heritage Council & Multicultural Centre

Welland Dragon Boat Festival, c/o Welland Heritage Council & Multicultural Centre
26 East Main Street, Welland, ON L3B 3W3
Tel: 905 732-5337 Fax: 905 732-0212
info@wellanddragonboatfestival.com www.wellanddragonboatfestival.com

Welland Dragon Boat Festival
Saturday June 3rd, 2017
Welland Recreational Canal, Welland, ON

The Welland Dragon Boat Festival is Welland's fastest growing event. Dragon Boats are the largest flat water racing canoes in the world. The Welland Dragon Boat Festival uses RDY dragon boats which are constructed of fiberglass and have a foam core throughout the hull. The boats weigh 550 pounds. Corporate and community teams made up of a minimum of 16 paddlers (20 is recommended), plus one drummer and a certified steersperson (provided if necessary) race along a 500-metre course in friendly competition.

Dragon boating is extremely user friendly and anyone, young or old, at any fitness level can quickly adapt to and develop a passion for this sport. Personal satisfaction, team development and friendship are just a few of the key words attributed to this sport by its growing number of participants. It caters to those who are competitive by nature as well as those who crave outdoor summer activity on our community waterfront parks.

Registration for the 2017 Welland Dragon Boat Festival is now open, so get your registration in early! Teams will have the opportunity to compete in this exciting and multicultural event on Saturday, June 3rd, 2017. All participating teams will be guaranteed three races (weather permitting) with trophies awarded based on timed events. Each team must have a minimum of 8 female paddlers.

All registered team members must be fourteen (14) years of age or older in the year of the competition and no team member under the age of eighteen (18) will be allowed to practice or race without the written consent and a waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian.

Teams of all abilities can participate and enjoy the fun and excitement of Dragon Boat Racing!

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26 East Main Street, Welland, ON L3B 3W3
Tel: 905 732-5337 Fax: 905 732-0212
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TEAM REGISTRATION

TEAM NAME: _____

TEAM MANAGER: _____

Address: _____

City, Prov: _____

Postal Code:_____

Business Phone:( ) _____ **Home Phone:( )**_____

Business Fax: ( ) _____ **Email:** _____

TEAM CAPTAIN: _____

Address: _____

City, Prov: _____**Postal Code:** _____

Business Phone: ( )_____**Home Phone: ( )**_____

Business Fax: ( )_____**E-mail:** _____

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CLUB CREW QUALIFIER REGISTRATION

Are you using this race as a club crew qualifier? ____YES _____NO
**If yes, each person on the team needs to have a membership with Dragon Boat Canada*

What division would your team like to race in?

__ Recreation
__ Female team
__ BCS
__ Youth
__Club Crew Qualifier

Will your team have their own Cox? ____**YES** _____**NO**

My team will fundraise _____up to $100 _____$100-$500 _____$500-$1000 _____more than $1000

My team will be booking a practice on Friday evening ____**YES** _____**NO**

Registration Fee enclosed: $ _____ *NO REFUNDS*

- **Make cheque payable to "Welland Dragon Boat Festival"**
- **Entries are accepted on a first come first served basis.**
- **Full payment must accompany the completed registration form for processing.**
- **Event occurs rain or shine**
- **No alcohol will be permitted on team site.**
- **Sale of merchandise or food by non-registered vendors will be strictly prohibited**
- **No dogs allowed**
- **All teams will be assigned a 10 x 20 site**

Please return completed registration form and registration fee to:
Welland Dragon Boat Festival
c/o Welland Heritage Council & Multicultural Centre
26 East Main Street
Welland, ON L3B 3W3
Fax: 905 732 - 0212

EARLY-BIRD TEAM REGISTRATION: $705.00 per team

($670 for multiple team registrations before April 1st)
(Registration and Payment must be made in full on or before April 1, 2017)
AFTER April 1, 2017 – TEAM REGISTRATION: $805.00 per team

RULES & REGULATIONS

1) TEAMS & ELIGIBILITY

All teams registered for the 16th Annual Welland Dragon Boat Festival must have a minimum of 8 female paddlers. A team must have a minimum of 16 paddlers (although 20 is recommended), and the number of team members must remain consistent for all races. Each team will also have 1 drummer and 1 steersperson (the steersperson can be provided). A team roster is allowed to hold a maximum of 24 paddlers, plus 1 drummer and 1 steersperson for a total roster allowance of 26 crewmembers. A team roster may include 1 team manager and 1 captain, both of whom may or may not be crew members, still totaling a maximum of 26 team members (including the drummer and steersperson). Under special circumstances, and only by approval of the Race Co-ordinator, a team roster may be expanded to 28 total team members. An example would be an organization whose team members are required to work shifts and/or weekends. Requests for an expanded roster must be sent to the event office via fax (905-732-0212) or e-mail (info@wellanddragonboatfestival.com).

A registered team member must be fourteen (14) years of age or older in the year of competition and no team member under the age of eighteen (18) will be allowed to practice or race without written consent and a waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian. Please contact the event office at 905-732-5337 (phone), 905-732-0212 (fax) or info@wellanddragonboatfestival.com (e-mail) for the required documents.

A final team roster, PAYMENT, along with outstanding individual waivers, must be submitted to the event office by May 22, 2017. Teams will not be permitted to race if all the team waivers, matching the team roster, have not been submitted to event officials.

AN INDIVIDUAL MAY ONLY REGISTER AS A PADDLER FOR ONE TEAM AND PADDLE ONLY FOR THAT PARTICULAR TEAM. Drummers and steerspersons can be either male or female and may participate on other teams in that capacity. They may also participate as a paddler for their team (i.e.: switching spots with another registered team member) or may choose to register and participate as a paddler for another team during the event (not both).

The Team Captain/Manager shall be responsible for the conduct of his or her team and for communicating and distributing all practice and race information to the team. He/she is responsible for collecting and submitting all forms and waivers and submitting them to the event office at 26 East Main St. in Welland by May 22, 2017.

2) SAFETY & WAIVERS

Each team member MUST sign an Individual Athletic Waiver. In addition, Team Athletic Waivers need to be signed by the responsible individual for each team prior to participation in any practice session or race. The team manager is responsible for duplicating, distributing and submitting all signed waivers to the event office prior to the first practice session. Be aware of forecast weather conditions during practices and on race day. The Practice Supervisor will be responsible for the suspension or cancellation of practices due to hazardous weather or marine conditions. In this case, attempts will be made to re-schedule the practice however, this provision is based on availability. A safety boat and referee boat will follow each race. If your dragon boat veers off course or becomes swamped, please remain with the boat and wait for the referee and/or safety boat to arrive. Follow their instructions!

3) DRAGON BOATS AND EQUIPMENT

The Welland Dragon Boat Festival will be using World Championship fibreglass dragon boats. Each boat is fully equipped with dragonhead and tail, paddles, steering oar and drum. Paddles will be supplied, as required. Teams may use their own paddles as long as they conform to required specifications. Any unmodified Grey Owl dragon boat paddle or any paddle supplied by race organizers will meet event specifications. No substitutions!

4) RACE VENUE AND LOGISTICS

The Welland Dragon Boat Festival is being held on the Welland Recreational Canal. The racecourse is a certified 500-metre course, clearly marked with neon buoys. Electronic timing with manual back-up and finish line video replay will record official race times and placing. The start sequence of the race will be controlled initially by the starting official. The starter will direct the teams to start line (pre-start position). Once each boat is in the pre-start position the starter will voice the command "ATTENTION PLEASE" and within 3-9 seconds the start cannon will fire. A penalty between 1-5 seconds will be issued to any team that begins paddling, in whole or in part, prior to the start cannon. In all cases, the starter can call back the race for a re-start.

Once a race has begun, each team is responsible for remaining in the centre of their respective lane until they cross the finish line. A team that wanders outside the racecourse or into another lane may be penalized, particularly if they interfere in any way with the progress of another boat. It is the chief official's decision whether a steersperson will be banned from steering in another race at this event. The referee, whose decision is final, without appeal, makes the decision as to whether interference has occurred. A team that is interfering or is about to interfere with another boat may be told to stop their boat by a race official. If the team does not stop their boat they will be disqualified.

The finish line is marked with RED buoys. The finish of each boat is recorded as the dragon's nose breaks the plane of the finish sight line approximately 1 metre behind the red buoys. All crewmembers must be in the boat at the end of the race or the boat will be recorded as 'Did Not Finish' (DNF). The decision of the judges is final.
Upon completion of their race, all crews must return immediately to the dock mooring area and follow the instructions of the dock marshals so that the next heat can begin on schedule. Official times and finishing positions will be announced as results become available and will be posted at Race Headquarters and in the vicinity of the team marshalling area. Team advancement into divisional semi-finals will be posted as soon as they are determined by qualifying heats.

5) RACE SCHEDULE FORMAT

The race schedule will be available on the website www.wellanddragonboatfestival.com one week prior to the event or by faxing in your request for a fax copy to event office at fax number 905-732-0212. It will also be posted on race day. Each team will race three times on Saturday in qualifying heats and subsequent seeding of teams for divisional semi-finals and finals.

NOTE: Adjustments to the racecourse, times and practice/race schedule may occur due to a number of circumstances including weather, daylight, safety, etc. These adjustments are a part of the event and are at the sole discretion of the Race Committee/Organizers and are final, without appeal.

The 16th Annual Welland Dragon Boat Festival
Saturday, June 3rd, 2017
Welland International Flatwater Centre, Welland ON

Team Name:_____

Team Roster

	Name:	Sex:	Waiver:
Drummer:	_____	_____	(_)
Does your team need to be provided with a steersperson? Yes	_____	***No***	_____
Paddler 1:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 2:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 3:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 4.	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 5:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 6:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 7:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 8:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 9:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 10:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 11:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 12:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 13:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 14:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 15:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 16:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 17:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 18:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 19:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 20:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 21:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 22:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 23:	_____	_____	(_)
Paddler 24:	_____	_____	(_)

Team requirements: 1 Drummer
1 Steersperson – Teams can provide their own certified steersperson; if a team does not have a steersperson, one will be provided
Paddlers: Min 16 - Teams must have a minimum of 8 female paddlers

Team Rosters must be submitted to the Festival Office by: May 22, 2017

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Individual Waiver and Release of Liability
Welland Dragon Boat Festival, Welland, Ontario

In consideration of electing to participate in the Welland Dragon Boat Festival the race training, events, and competition, on or before June 3rd, 2017 in Welland, Ontario, I:

1. Understand that prior to participating, the facilities and equipment to be used may be inspected, and if anything is believed to be unsafe, shall notify the team captain, who shall immediately advise the sterns man of such condition(s). The undersigned may elect to not participate until the unsafe condition(s) is/are corrected.

2. Acknowledge and fully understand that I shall be engaging in activities that involve risk of serious injury, including permanent disability and death, and severe social and economic losses which might result not only from my actions, inactions, the negligence of others, the rules of play, or the condition of the premises, or of any equipment used. Further, that there may be other risks not known to me or reasonably foreseeable at this time.

3. Assume all the foregoing risks and accept personal responsibility for the damages and social and economic losses following such accident, injury, permanent disability or death.

4. Release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue or make claims against the Welland Dragon Boat Festival and organizers, coaches, trainers, sterns people, other employees, agents, and volunteers of these organizations, other participants, sponsoring agencies, advisors, advertisers, the City of Welland, and Lively Dragon Club Members, Employees and any associates to Lively Dragon, all of which are hereinafter referred to as the "releases", from any liability to the undersigned for any and all claims, demands, losses, or damages on account of injury, including death or damage to property caused or alleged to be caused in whole or in part by any action of these releases.

5. Agree that an approved life jacket will be worn, properly fastened at all times, while in the boat and assume all responsibility for being informed of all safety rules and to abide by all such rules related to the activity.

I HAVE READ THIS WAIVER AND RELEASE and now execute it on this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Print Name _____ **Age** ____ **Phone**_____

Address (Street City Prov) _____

Team Name:_____

Signature of participant if older than 18 years:_____

OR-if participant is under 18:

Print Name of parent or guardian _____

Address (Street City Prov, Phone)_____

Signature of parent or guardian: _____

Please Mail or Fax to:
Welland Dragon Boat Festival, 26 East Main Street, Welland, ON L3B 3W3 Fax: 905 732-0212

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Team Waiver and Release of Liability
Welland Dragon Boat Festival, Welland, Ontario

In consideration of electing to participate in the Welland Dragon Boat Festival the race training, events, and competition, on or before June 3, 2017 in Welland, Ontario, I:

1. Agree that prior to participating, the facilities and equipment to be used shall be inspected, and if anything is believed to be unsafe, the team captain shall immediately advise the sterns man of such condition(s). The undersigned may elect to not participate until unsafe condition(s) is/are corrected.

2. Acknowledge and fully understand that we shall be engaging in activities that involve risk of serious injury, including permanent disability and death, and severe social and economic losses which might result not only from our actions, inactions, the negligence of others, the rules of play, or the condition of the premises, or of any equipment used. Further, that there may be other risks not known to us or reasonably foreseeable at this time.

3. Assume all the foregoing risks and accept personal responsibility for the damages and social and economic losses following such accident, injury, permanent disability or death.

4. Release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue or make claims against the Welland Dragon Boat Festival and organizers, coaches, trainers, sterns people, other employees, agents, and volunteers of these organizations, other participants, sponsoring agencies, advisors, advertisers, and the City of Welland, and Lively Dragon Club Members, Employees and any associates to Lively Dragon, all of which are hereinafter referred to as the "releases", from any liability to the undersigned for any and all claims, demands, losses, or damages on account of injury, including death or damage to property caused or alleged to be caused in whole or in part by any action of these releases.

5. Agree that an approved life jacket will be worn, properly fastened at all times, while in the boat and assume all responsibility for being informed of all safety rules and to abide by all such rules related to the activity.

(Team Waiver)
I HAVE READ THIS WAIVER AND RELEASE and now execute it on this ____day of _____2017

TEAM NAME: _____

Name (Please Print)	Address (Street, City, Prov.)	Phone #	Age	Signature (If under 18, signature of parent or guardian is required)

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(Note: All paddlers must submit an individual waiver in addition to this TEAM WAIVER)

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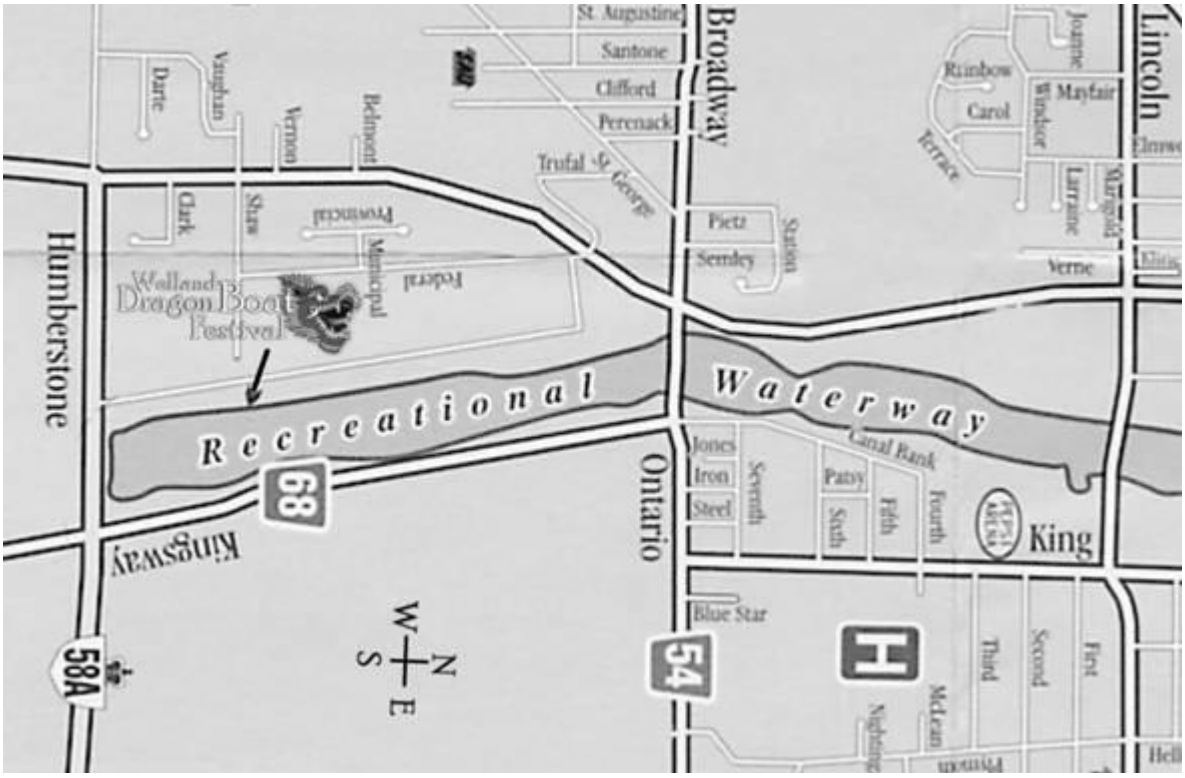
Event Location



From Toronto:
From QEW Niagara, take Regional Road #24(Exit 57) at Vineland
Turn right off the QEW and proceed South for 24 km to Forks Road
Turn left onto Forkes Road(at the Firestone Dealer) and proceed 10km to Kingsway Street
Turn left onto Kingsway Street (just after the bridge)
Follow Kingsway to Humberstone Rd (HWY 58A)
Turn left onto Humberstone Rd.
Welland Dragon Boat Festival Registration Tent is located on your right

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